

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE: U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS, INC., n/k/a QWEST CORPORATION, AND MCLEODUSA TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES, INC.	DOCKET NO. NIA-97-22
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**ORDER APPROVING AMENDMENT NO. 8 TO NEGOTIATED
INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT**

(Issued January 26, 2001)

On December 20, 2000, U S WEST Communications, Inc., n/k/a Qwest Corporation, and McLeodUSA Telecommunications Services, Inc., filed an eighth amendment to their negotiated interconnection agreement to add terms, conditions, and rates for business-to-business relationships as described in the amendment. The proceeding was identified as Docket No. NIA-97-22. The Utilities Board (Board), on December 15, 1997, had approved the initial negotiated interconnection agreement. Review by the Board of this amendment is pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 252(e). On December 29, 2000, the Board issued an order allowing any interested party the opportunity to submit written comments supporting approval or rejection of the amendment within 30 days of the filing. No comments were filed.

Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 252(e)(2)(A), the Board may reject a negotiated interconnection agreement or amendment if it finds either (1) the agreement or amendment discriminates against a telecommunications carrier not a party to the

agreement, or (2) the implementation of the agreement or amendment is not consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity. Based upon the record made in this docket, the filed amendment does not discriminate against any other telecommunications carrier and is not inconsistent with the public purpose and will be approved.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

Amendment No. 8 to the negotiated interconnection agreement filed on December 20, 2000, by U S West Communications, Inc., n/k/a Qwest Corporation, and McLeodUSA Telecommunications Services, Inc., is approved to be effective upon the issuance of this order.

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ Allan T. Thoms

/s/ Susan J. Frye

ATTEST:

/s/ Judi K. Cooper
Acting Executive Secretary

/s/ Diane Munns

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 26th day of January, 2001.